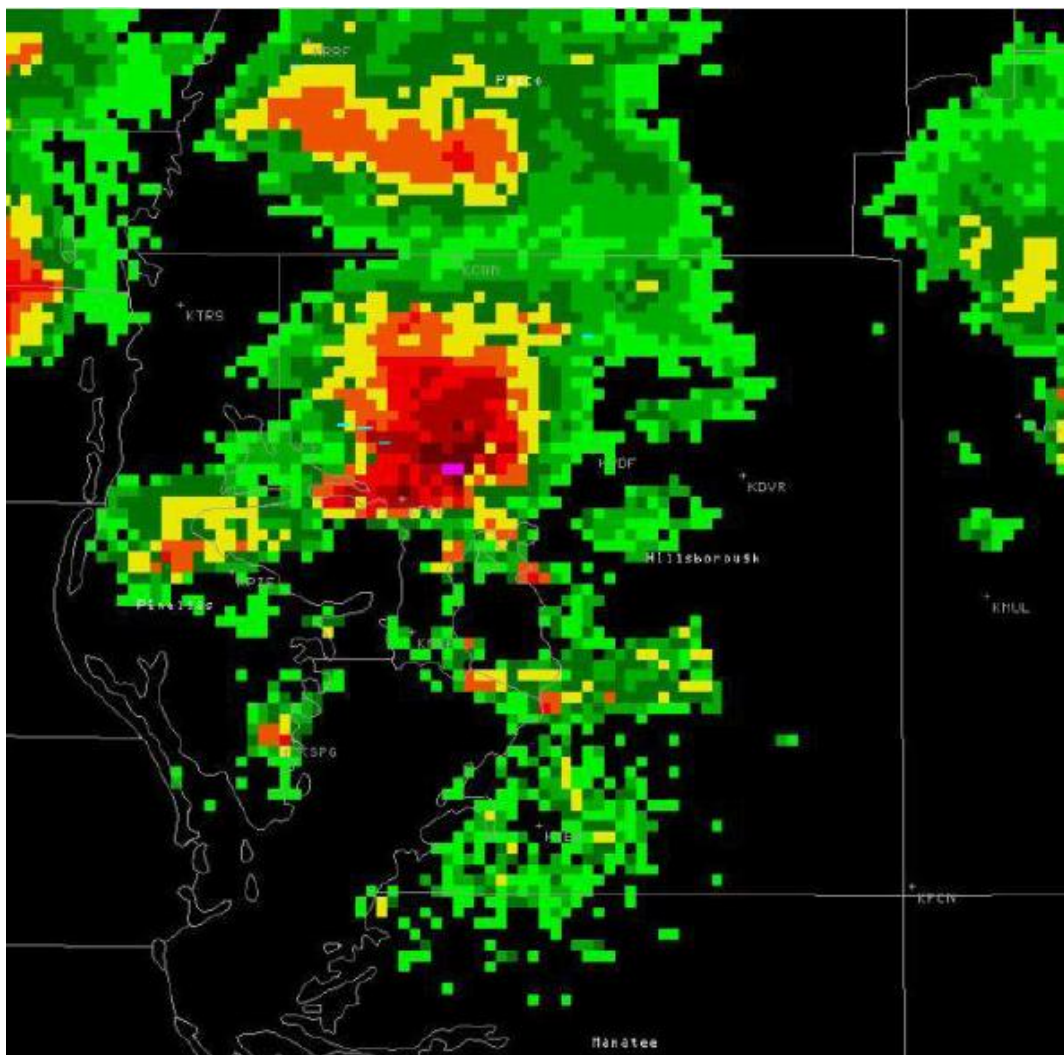


# Brief Microburst Strikes Seminole Heights

## Fact Sheet

**Event date:** March 14, 2005



**Figure 1.** Composite reflectivity image, showing hail core (pink pixel in center of image) just prior to the microburst.

### Summary of event:

A microburst (a convective downdraft, or a strong downward pulse of wind, with an affected outflow area of less than 2 miles wide and peak winds lasting less than 5 minutes) crashed down on unsuspecting Seminole Heights residents shortly after noon (12:45 pm) on Monday, March 14, 2005, causing widespread damage along the 1.5 mile path. This very violent burst of winds was



swift and caught many residents unawares. Damage included a few roofs peeled back, windows blown out of at least one business, dozens of trees and large limbs blown down, and at least a dozen power wires and transformers blown down. About 2000 residents were without power shortly after the storm passed. All this was done in only a minute's time in any given location. Top winds were estimated at 65 mph in areas that received the heaviest damage. At least 10 pines trees were blown down or uprooted in a park. A large oak tree had many limbs downed onto a home just north of the park. When the microburst struck the commercial zone nearby, one business had its windows blown out and subsequent water damage. An oak tree toppled in a church parking lot smashing three vehicles.

**Links for more information:**

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/tbw/2005/BriefMicroburstStrikes.pdf>.

**Acknowledgments:** The National Weather Service, Tampa Bay Area.